

*The Budget—Mr. McGarry*

is any suspicion or forecast of bad weather they refuse to go out; whereas, if they had a life-saving boat at Cheticamp, they would feel that if they got into trouble there would be some refuge in the storm. I urge upon the minister the consideration of this very important matter. It would not be costly, because it would mean only a few hundred dollars, and I can assure him that it would have a great effect on the production of fish in that area.

Lumbering is another thing that will receive consideration under the rehabilitation scheme. The lumber industry in my constituency is one of our greatest industries. The province of Nova Scotia has done a great deal in the way of conserving our forests and in encouraging that industry in many ways. From the revenue that is accruing to the dominion from that industry, I really think something more should be done to encourage it.

What I have said about fisheries in the county of Inverness applies also to the counties of Richmond and West Cape Breton. These people, alone and unaided, have done wonderful work in that industry. They have established cooperatives there, and they are carrying on, under difficulties, a business which is very important not only to themselves but to the dominion as a whole.

Another thing that should come under the rehabilitation scheme is an intensive geological survey of our mineral wealth. I believe that if any section of this dominion has been almost absolutely immune from research of this kind it is the island of Cape Breton, and I would urge upon the Minister of Mines and Resources (Mr. Crerar) that he see to it that as a post-war programme, and knitted into the fabric of rehabilitation, there should be an intensive research into our minerals, which I believe exist in abundance although they have not yet been revealed.

Another industry that will receive consideration, and one that should be considered particularly in my constituency, is the farming industry. As has already been pointed out to the house, there are hundreds of thousands of fertile acres in Nova Scotia which are submerged, and each year these submerged areas are increasing. This does not mean that our farmers are negligent or that they are not trying to help themselves; but this is a problem in which they cannot help themselves, and this reclamation of land, and the preservation of other land that will be overrun if some precaution is not taken, is one of the most important things I can conceive of in the province from which I come.

Talking about centralization and decentralization, another thing we are suffering from

[Mr. McGarry.]

in the island of Cape Breton, is the lack of an abattoir. The result is that our people in Cape Breton during this war have not been allowed the bonus on hogs simply because the only abattoir to which we have access is in Moncton, New Brunswick, and the cost of transporting our live stock there is too great. Moreover, the inconvenience is quite a serious matter. I think we should have an abattoir on the island of Cape Breton.

Something else which I believe is indicated is some sort of experimental station, a farm owned by the government, for the purpose of encouraging our people in the industry, setting an example in the way of increasing our stock and improving it, and interesting our people in sheep raising or something of that sort, for which our country is well adapted. I know several sites in my constituency which would be very suitable for an experimental farm of that kind, not far removed from a market, with splendid water, enough acreage, good pasturage, and surrounded by the most prominent farmers in the constituency.

We have heard something about the civil aviation scheme. I hope, when that is put into effect, our section of the country will not be overlooked. We have one of the most suitable sites for an airport right on the very brim of Cape Breton Highland park, and after this war, with our tourist meccas we have all around us, we expect that the influx of tourist traffic will mean to us the greatest revenue of all our industries.

We know also that these men who come to visit our country, in order to admire our scenic beauties and to bask in our restful surroundings, have not very much time to spare, and I do not doubt that many hundreds, yes, thousands, of these people will come to our meccas by plane. I said before, we have, adjoining our national park, one of the best sites in Nova Scotia for an air field. I would ask the minister, who is so greatly interested in the matter, when the house closes, if he is looking around for a place to admire beautiful scenery and to get a rest such as he would never obtain in any other part of the world, to look over our prospects in that direction.

Mr. GILLIS: He had better take a lunch with him.

Mr. McGARRY: Why?

Mr. GILLIS: Well, after the description you have given us.

Mr. McGARRY: What description?

Mr. GILLIS: All the fixing up that the whole constituency needs.

Mr. McGARRY: Do you not agree with me?